

*paper as you suggest  
and do our best to  
coordinate it within the Agency.*

7 April 1970

*But in the end I want a good  
paper on this subject even if I*

NOTE TO THE DIRECTOR

*have to make the controversial judgments*

The attached memorandum has now been coordinated with OCI, OER, SAVA, and the Clandestine Services. There is no major substantive change from the previous uncoordinated draft, but there has been some rearrangement of paragraphs to alter the tone a bit. We have tried to deal with the problem of timing, which is recalcitrant.

*myself.  
We owe  
it to  
the  
policy  
makers,  
I feel.*

George Carver is none too happy with the paper even now - he thinks it is still too gloomy. Some of the Board (Matthias, for example) think it is not gloomy enough. In several more detailed matters this draft represents a compromise.

Whether the Memorandum should go to the White House is of course up to you. I would observe only that its judgments are not argued at length, knowledge of historical and current developments is taken for granted, and therefore it may not appeal to recipients downtown, whether or not they agree with what it says. An adequate explanation and defense of the paper's conclusions would run to considerable length, and would be difficult to coordinate even within the Agency.

I ought to mention that [ ] recently back from a trip to Vietnam), who wrote and supervised the earlier draft, were unavailable for this coordinated version. [ ] was ill, [ ] was at the funeral of his father.

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ABBOT SMITH  
Director  
National Estimates

Attachment:

Memorandum to the Director, dated 6 April 1970  
"The Situation in Indochina"

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PLEASE RETURN TO  
AGENCY ARCHIVES, [ ]

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MEMORANDUM FOR: DDCI

**This is a revised version of the previous memorandum. It has been coordinated with OCI, OER, SAVA and the Clandestine Services.**

**ABBOT SMITH  
Director  
National Estimates**

cc: DDI

Attachment:

**Memo for the Director, dtd 6 Apr 70**

**"The Situation in Indochina"**

**7 April 1970  
(DATE)**

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101  
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

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